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Date: March 25, 2009 **Number of pages** (including cover): 3

To: Examiner Thomas E. Lee IV, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Fax No.: 571-273-8300

Serial No.: 10/550,583

Title: **NETWORK CONNECTION MANAGEMENT METHOD AND ELECTRONIC APPARATUS**

From: Daniel T. Wehner, Ph.D.

Direct dial: 617.646.8299

Our File #: S1459.70084US00

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being transmitted via facsimile to the attention of Examiner Thomas E. Lee IV, FAX number 571-270-8292, at the United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.6(d), on the 25th day of March, 2009.


Eileen M. MacKenzie

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MESSAGE: Transmitted herewith is a Proposed Interview Agenda.

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Docket No.: S1459.70084US00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hiroko Hashi
Serial No.: 10/550,583
Confirmation No.: 1383
Filed: September 22, 2005
For: NETWORK CONNECTION MANAGEMENT METHOD AND
ELECTRONIC APPARATUS
Examiner: Thomas E. Lee IV
Art Unit: 4142

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PROPOSED INTERVIEW AGENDA

Dear Sir

Applicants' representatives thank Examiner Lee for the consideration of granting a telephone interview in connection with the outstanding Final Office Action in the above-referenced application. In accordance with the Examiner's request, a proposed agenda for the telephone interview is provided below. After receiving this agenda, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned to schedule a time for the interview.

During the interview, Applicants' representatives would like to discuss the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103 and the cited reference "Booth."

Claim 5 is directed to an electronic apparatus that recites *inter alia*, "an access controller for detecting an electrical connection or disconnection between the network cable and said connector jack by detecting an availability of a digital signal received from a network" (emphasis added).

As described in Applicants' specification at least at paragraph [0009], prior art non-event-driven OS systems use polling to detect the availability of a network connection. However, if the polling interval is shortened, the system load is increased, and if the polling interval is increased,

- 2 -

connection/disconnection to a network cable may not be readily detected. One advantage of Applicants' invention (to which the claims are not limited) is to detect the availability of an electrical connection by detecting the availability of a digital signal from a network rather than by using polling.

The Office Action appears to assert that Booth discloses an access controller as a network interface card (NIC) which controls access between the computer system and the physical layer. Applicants would like to discuss how the Examiner is interpreting this section of Booth to read on the limitation of "...detecting the availability of a digital signal from a network" recited in claim 5, as Applicants' understanding is that both of the methods by which the NIC of Booth monitors an active link of a computer to a network involves polling a status register.

Dated: 3/25/09

Respectfully submitted,

By _____


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